

Claims

- [c1] What is claimed is:
1. A system for providing card access and security system operation, the system using an Internet cloud as a communication medium and a host station for handling the processing for a multitude of remote sites, the system comprising: at least one Internet client station linked to the Internet cloud; at least one intelligent card access or security controller providing selected live event data operation to the Internet cloud; at least one Internet host center linked to the Internet cloud handling said messages from one or more systems and controllers; and a data center for housing, storing, and archiving said data and the configuration and logic for handling such real time data; the Internet host center linked to the cloud to provide connection to the Internet to handle requests from one or more Internet clients, to respond with data to Internet client stations in response to requests, and to deliver unsolicited, high priority events to said clients wherever they may be connected on the Internet.
 - [c2] 2. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the Internet client stations and the Internet host centers are linked to the Internet cloud via Internet connections, the Internet connections supporting a secure transport protocol.
 - [c3] 3. The system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the Internet host center is linked to at least one card access or security controller via Internet connections, the Internet connections supporting a secure transport protocol.
 - [c4] 4. The system as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one of the Internet connections and one of the card access and security controller connections support HTTP.
 - [c5] 5. The system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the card access and security controller connections are via a wireless connection to the Internet.
 - [c6] 6. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the Internet host center can support multiple Internet client stations and authenticate each client's privilege to access data.
 - [c7] 7. The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein one or more of the Internet client stations can simultaneously access the Internet host center to receive real time updates, database reports, and historical archives.

- [c8] 8. The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein one or more of the Internet clients can configure and setup the security logic and alarm handling behavior of the card access and security system.
- [c9] 9. The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the Internet host center comprises one or more Internet access servers, the Internet access servers providing some or all of the configuration parameters associated with system behavior.
- [c10] 10. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the Internet host center comprises multiple subsystems to accommodate multiple sets of Internet clients and multiple sets of card access and security controllers.
- [c11] 11. The system as claimed in claim 10, wherein the Internet host center comprises multiple subsystems, linked, respectively, to one or more card access databases, the databases being captive.
- [c12] 12. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the Internet host center comprises multiple subsystems, linked, respectively, to one or more card access databases, at least one of the databases being independent.
- [c13] 13. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the Internet host center comprises an Internet server, the Internet server providing to the Internet client station some or all of the parameters associated with client authentication.
- [c14] 14. The system as claimed in claim 10, wherein the Internet host center comprises an authorization server linked to one or more card access servers, each of the card access servers being linked, respectively, to one or more card access databases.
- [c15] 15. The system as claimed in claim 10, wherein at least one of the card access servers is independent.
- [c16] 16. A method for Internet-based, card access and security event distribution to Internet client stations, the clients seeking access of an Internet host center, the method comprising the steps of: establishing parameters associated with selected characteristics to be used in the event distribution; acquiring, at the intelligent card access or security controller, card access data in accordance with the parameters; receiving, at the Internet host center, a message that includes response data; selecting, at the Internet host center, one or more

records from among records associated with one or more client individuals; distributing event data with selected records, and logging the event data for reporting and archival purposes.

[c17] 17. A method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising the steps of: providing, at the Internet client station, designated event data in HTML format; a time sequenced queue of data; and facilities to handle and otherwise respond to the data by said client.

[c18] 18. A method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising the step of providing, from the Internet client station, a response acknowledging the delivery of the event data, this responding step comprising the steps of: (A) preparing the response, which step includes one or more of the following steps: (i) acknowledging the event; (ii) preparing a written response having template links to accessible handling data; (iii) preparing an appropriate entry in a log from a provided selection list; and (iv) preparing a secure protocol message; and (B) effecting the response, which step includes one or more of the following steps: (i) redirecting the response to an alternative Internet client station; (ii) routing the response to the alternative Internet client station via the Internet; (iii) processing the acknowledgement responses from the alternative client; (iv) and logging the responses to an archive.

[c19] 19. A method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising the step of establishing secure communication channels in and among the Internet client station and the Internet host center.

[c20] 20. A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the step of establishing secure communication channels employing an Internet client at the Internet client station and a Internet server at the Internet host center, the Internet client and the Internet server providing for establishing a secure communication channel between the Internet client station and the Internet host center.

[c21] 21. A method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising the step of recording selected details of the distributed message and the results of the acknowledging step so as to create a card access audit trail.

[c22] 22. A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein: the acquiring step comprises plural acquisitions, said plural acquisitions relating to one or more card access

characteristics; and the establishing parameters step further comprises at least one of the following steps: (i) combining said acquisitions from among supported sources, said combinations based on Boolean and other logical operations associated with single card access characteristics and with combinations of card access characteristics; and (ii) selecting a trigger event, said trigger event causing the acquisition or combination of card access data.

[c23] 23. A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the step of selecting a trigger event comprises selected time interval for repeating the acquisition or combination steps.

[c24] 24. A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the step of establishing parameters comprises one or more communications by and among the Internet host center and the intelligent card access and security controller.

[c25] 25. A method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the step of establishing parameters further comprises downloading a page from the Internet host center to the Intelligent card access and security controller responsive to the Internet client station requesting same of the Internet host center, the page including parameters.

[c26] 26. A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the step of downloading a page from the Internet host center comprises the step of including parameters that offer alternatives, the alternatives being selectable.

[c27] 27. A method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising the step of determining a server center from among plural server centers.